

ABSTRACT

In an authentication-data issuing system based on  
unique time, a master computer (1) creates authentication  
5 data on the basis of an elapsed time measurement

indicated by an unique time generating device (6) and  
transmits the created authentication data to a lower-  
level computer (2A), which further delivers the  
authenticating data to a still-lower-level computer (3A).

10 The lower-level computer and still-lower-level computer  
sequentially impart respective unique additional data to  
the authentication data and then transmits the resultant  
additional-data-imparted data to a lowest-level vending  
machine (5). The lowest-level vending machine (5) also  
15 imparts its unique additional data to the authentication  
data, received from the still-lower-level computer, to  
create unique authentication data and records the thus-  
created unique authentication data on a prepaid card (20)  
to be issued thereby. Simultaneously, the ultimately-

20 ~~created unique authentication data is sent from the~~  
vending machine, through the still-lower-level computer  
and lower-level computer, back to the master computer (1)  
for registration therein. When the thus-issued prepaid  
card (20) is used on a pachinko machine in a pachinko  
25 house under the control of the master computer (1), the  
pachinko machine reads the unique authentication data  
recorded on the card, and the thus-read data is collated

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with the data registered in the master computer (1) to ascertain the authenticity of the card.

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